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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Jim Ramstad
House of Representatives
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Ramstad:

This is in reply to your letter of February 5, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules

Honorable Jim Ramstad

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your letter in this proceeding. Comments on the

Congressional

DUE OBC: 2-18-93

JIM RAMSTAD
THIRD DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

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NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

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February 5, 1993

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Secretary:

A number of constituents have contacted me about their concerns with PR Docket No. 92-325.

As you know, this proposed rule would change regulations governing the operation of private land mobile radio (PLMR) services such as police and taxi cab communications.

My constituents have voiced concern that the changes may interfere with their hobby of flying radio-controlled model airplanes. They stress that interference-free transmission is vital to the safe use of these aircraft.

As you craft the final regulation, I certainly hope you will give serious attention to the concerns of model airplane enthusiasts.